MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 DECEMBER 1983

PLO Affairs

'Arafat in Egypt — "Egypt has returned to the Arabs and we will not allow any force to exclude Egypt from its Arab nation again," PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat stated in an interview in Egypt's *AL-AHRAM* as reported by MENA. On 22 December 'Arafat held a closed meeting with President Husni Mubarak in Cairo and then went to the port of Suez where he was to board a ship bound for the YAR.

A Fatah Central Committee statement emphasized that the visit resulted from 'Arafat's "unilateral decision," conflicting with the principle of collective leadership, and said that 'Arafat would be held solely responsible for the visit. The statement, which was reported by AFP, also promised that the committee would discuss the issue and issue a final statement. PLO military second in command Khalil al-Wazir and Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi did not attend the Central Committee meeting that issued the statement, AFP observed. In remarks to KUNA, PLO Executive Committee member Salah Khalaf also underlined 'Arafat's responsibility for the visit and asserted that the visit contraveres PNC and Fatah resolutions. Similarly, PFLP Secretary General George Habash characterized the visit as "blunt defiance and flagrant violation" of recent PNC resolutions and called for 'Arafat's dismissal from all his PLO posts, Damascus radio reported, while DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah expressed his organization's condemnation of the visit in remarks to ANA. The PFLP-General Command, As-Sa'iqah, the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front, and PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum all also criticized 'Arafat's visit, according to SANA reports, as did the Palestine Liberation Front, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

Israel views the meeting between 'Arafat and Mubarak as "an overt violation" of the Israel-Egypt peace treaty, Jerusalem radio revealed. The Foreign Ministry instructed Israel's ambassador in Washington to inform Assistant Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger of its position. In an interview with the radio, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, opined that the meeting "does not constitute a violation of the peace treaty."

Future Plans — In his interview with *AL-AHRAM* 'Arafat confirmed that once his forces are relocated the Fatah command will meet to discuss "all dimensions" of the Tripoli experience. Following that meeting the "Palestinian constitutional institutions," including the PLO Executive Committee and the PNC, will be convened and no one, including the Fatah dissidents, will be deprived of membership. 'Arafat also predicted a "comprehensive restructuring of the PLO's institutions." Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan announced in a statement to the Qatari paper *AR-RAYAH* that a Fatah general congress will be convened in January 1984 with the PNC to meet in February, WAKH reported. Al-Hasan also confirmed that 'Arafat will go to Jordan for talks with King Husayn and announced that Palestinian-Jordanian confederation is "one of the constant and important facts" in the future. On the talks with Jordan, Salah Khalaf stated that "these negotiations do not deal with the Reagan plan," but instead focus on the Arab peace plan announced at the Fes summit. In an interview with *LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS*, cited by KUNA, Khalaf also announced that the PLO would immediately cease military activities if serious negotiations to find a peaceful settlement to the Palestinian problem begin.

North Lebanon — The dissident Palestinian forces will begin withdrawing from their positions around Tripoli, regrouping, and moving to the front against Israel within the next 24 hours, according to a dissident spokesman cited by Radio Monte Carlo. Meanwhile, former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami, who heads the Tripoli Higher Coordination Council, called on the Palestinians to withdraw to "the camps and Al-Biqa'," in accordance with the Syrian-Saudi agreement on the disengagement and withdrawal of pro- and anti-'Arafat forces in the area, KUNA announced.

Iran

The "combatants of Islam" killed or wounded over 30 "counter-revolutionaries," captured 5 others, and took 11 villages and areas in Kordestan from the rebels in an operation 13-19 December, Tehran radio announced.

Lebanon

Michael Haseltine, British secretary of state for defense, arrived in Beirut on 23 December to inspect the British contingent of the Multinational Force, Beirut radio reported. He reiterated that the contingent will remain in Beirut "until it completes its mission."

A car loaded with TNT was discovered before it could explode in Beirut, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The radio also reported continued clashes in the Al-Kharrub region, where the Red Cross has requested that the warring factions cease firing to allow the evacuation of three Red Cross officials who were injured when their car set off a landmine. Clashes also continued around Lebanese Army positions in Suq al-Gharb, according to Beirut radio.

Israel

Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir resigned, Jerusalem television reported, "to devote more time and energy" to the National Religious Party, which he represents.

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Protest Made to Pakistan Over Towr Kham Incidents

LD221752 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] At 1330 today the charge d'affaires of the Embassy of Pakistan in Kabul was summoned to the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a note of protest in connection with the aggression as well as the subversive and provocative actions by that country in the Towr Kham area was handed to him by the official in charge of Political Department No 1.

For some time now aggression as well as subversive and provocative actions have been carried out by the military post in the Towr Kham area on the Pakistani side against DRA customs and other civil establishments in Towr Kham. Pakistani authorities have been informed of the incident every time through necessary channels. These hostile provocations and aggression have caused lives to be lost.

The most recent incident, about which the Pakistani Government was informed through you, the charge d'affaires, was on 14 December 1983. Regretfully, the Pakistani authorities not only have not bridled such provocations and aggression, but, as substantial evidence shows, these provocations and operations have been further fanned and have been intensified and expanded.

According to a report by the relevant DRA authorities, on 18 December 1983 a number of bandits, thieves, and highway robbers, supported by Pakistani border units and backed by Pakistani light and heavy weapons including guns, attacked DRA customs and other DRA civil establishments in Towr Kham, set fire to the customs building, and looted property and movable goods. The attack cost a number of losses in lives and material and caused severe disruption in the normal customs duties, the people's daily affairs, and transport operations.

According to the latest information, sporadic gunfire has continued from that side of Towr Kham to the Afghan side. And it seems as if the Pakistani authorities want to give new dimensions to interference, including armed interference from its soil, in DRA affairs. If the situation is such, then the consequences of such hostile actions will be very grave. And without any doubt the responsibility of all dangerous consequences emanating from this interference will rest directly on the shoulders of Pakistani authorities.

These subversive actions and interference contravene all internationally recognized norms and the UN Charter. They increase tension in the region and, if not prevented, will have a grave effect on peace in the region and in the world. The DRA strongly protests the aforementioned incident and interference to the Government of Pakistan, and the DRA expects Pakistani authorities to deal responsibly in this regard and to prevent such incidents and interference.

Commerce Minister Departs for USSR 23 Dec

LD231010 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Text] Kabul, Dec 22, BAKHTAR — An Afghan delegation headed by Mohammad Khan Jalalar, minister of commerce of the DRA, left Kabul for Moscow today. The Afghan delegation is expected to conclude an agreement with the Soviet side for the exchange of goods between the two countries for the [words indistinct] document on the [word indistinct] aid of the Soviet Union to Afghanistan is also expected to be signed.

Discussion will also take place between the two sides for the further expansion of trade between the two countries.

Soviet Control Over Kabul Said More Visible

PM221417 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 22 Dec 83 p 4

[Balram Tandon dispatch: "Kabul Fortress Bristles With Weapons"]

[Text] Kabul — Four years after Soviet troops flew in to occupy Afghanistan, Kabul, the country's capital, has been converted into a fortress bristling with weapons, with Russians keeping a watchful eye on the inhabitants as well as outsiders.

Russian control over security in Kabul in particular and vigilance over all outsiders seeking admission to the mountain-ringed capital today is on a marked and strikingly higher level than last year.

Over the last 10 months the capital's international airport has been converted into a major air base with some five squadrons of MiG-21, MiG-23 and Sukhoy fighters plus an equal number of helicopter gunships and transports.

Russian soldiers make their presence felt as civilian aircraft on scheduled internal and international flights arrive or take off. All the fighter bombers and gunships I saw last weekend had Russian markings. Last year most bore Afghan insignia.

The Soviet command now makes no effort to conceal the strength of Russian personnel at the airport or in the town. Russian soldiers, armed with automatic weapons, guard expansion projects at the airport.

One of the flights of Ariana (the state owned Afghan airline) has a scheduled three-hour stopover and this sometimes extends to four hours but all on board are banned from alighting "without official permission."

Security is equally stringent in the city and Russian soldiers are part of most military patrols after the 10 p.m. curfew.

Congress-I Workers Stage Sit-ins in Kashmir

BK221611 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, Congress-I workers staged dharnas [sit-ins] at different places to protest against the alleged failure of the state government to solve the problems of the people. A large number of Congress-I workers at various districts and tahsil [revenue area] headquarters, including the leader of the Congress-I legislature party, Iftiqar Hussain Ansari, were arrested in Srinagar.

The pradesh [state] Congress-I chief, Mr Mufti Mohammad Syed, has condemned the arrest and said his party workers were projecting the problems of the people in a democratic manner.

An official spokesman said this evening in Srinagar that 51 Congress-I workers have been taken into custody in Kashmir valley today.

1984 Trade Protocol Signed With Poland 22 Dec

BK230859 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Text] India and Poland signed a trade protocol for 1984 in New Delhi yesterday. The agreement provides for a bilateral trade turnover of about 4 billion rupees, which represents an increase of 15 percent over the trade plan target for 1983. The protocol was signed by Mr V N. Kaul, joint secretary, Ministry of Commerce, and Mr Stanislaw, director, Polish Ministry of Foreign Trade.

TIMES Says Indo-Soviet Trade Progress 'Limited'

BK230830 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 15 Dec 83 p 8

[Editorial: "Limited Progress"]

[Text] The new Indo-Soviet trade protocol for 1984 neatly tackles some of the immediate problems that bedevil Indo-Soviet trade but fails to make the structural changes necessary to ensure rapid growth in the years to come. Crude oil exports from the Soviet Union, raised this year by a million tonnes as a one-time exception to 3.5 million tonnes, will now be maintained next year also at the higher level. During 1983, the shortage of rupees to its credit had compelled the Soviet Union to slash or stop its purchases of oilcakes, cashew kernels, rice, pepper, cosmetics and other goods in India. Industries catering for the Soviet market, specially in the Kandla free trade zone, were hard hit as a result. Such a contingency is unlikely to recur next year. Indeed, the new Russian commitment to keep up supplies of crude oil and petroleum products in 1984, combined with its pledge to export substantial quantities of cement and aluminium in addition to the traditional items, means that it can now both increase and diversify its imports from India. The inclusion of new products like steel plates and heavy structurals and sugar in the list of Indian exports would help liquidate the large stocks of these commodities at home. All in all, the trade plan envisages a total turnover to Rs. 3,840 crores in 1984 compared with Rs. 3,626 crores originally projected for this year — a modest increase by any reckoning.

While Indo-Soviet trade has begun to reflect the radical changes in the economy of the two countries since the early 'seventies, it has yet to realise its full potential. Due to increasing affluence, Russia has become a major market for consumer products and Indian exports of manufactures ranging from printed fabrics to mango juice have been rising in consequence. India, on its part, has become a ready buyer for Soviet crude, petroleum products, non-ferrous metals and other basic raw materials of which the Soviet Union still has a substantial surplus for export. The fact that India has a large, accumulated surplus on trade account — estimated at about Rs. 2,350 crores in the beginning of this year — still impels the Soviet Union to curtail purchases from India and thus prevents the growth of two-way trade at a faster pace. The bottleneck can be broken if Moscow agrees to sell to India substantial quantities of gold and rough diamonds that this country needs to push up its exports of hand-made jewelery. The fact that it can sell these for hard currency need not inhibit it because its outlay on the manufactures that it buys from the West would be reduced to the extent it can purchase them in India for rupees. In many areas, including capital equipment and machinery, the quality of Indian products now compares favourably with its imports from the West. Besides, it has a substantial credit — reckoned at Rs. 4,000 crores — in a separate account for the Indian purchases of Soviet arms with long-term loans. So temporary imbalances in its trade with this country should not worry Moscow unduly.

Press Comment on Ershad Presidency Declaration

Ershad 'Asking for Trouble'

BK230810 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 15 Dec 83 p 8

[Editorial: "Short-Cut in Dhaka"]

[Text] So Lieutenant-General H.M. Ershad, chief martial law administrator of Bangladesh, has appointed himself as President of that country. The move may have been sudden but it cannot be called a surprise. For rumours anticipating what has come to pass had been circulating in Dhaka for several days. The general appears to have acted five days ahead of the 12th anniversary of the liberation of Bangladesh when he was supposed to take over the presidency. It may not be a mere coincidence that he acted just as the conference of Islamic foreign ministers in Dhaka was dispersing. He has advertised his assumption of the office of President as a device to smoothen the "transition to democracy". But his rhetoric cannot obscure the reality that his hurried action is in fact an admission of defeat. This is so because he had earlier planned to become President only through elections of sorts. For this purpose he had even floated a party, Janadal, which will for the present be headed by Mr Ahsanuddin Chowdhury, who has been unceremoniously evicted from the Presidential place. But the general's plan to hold the Presidential election ahead of the parliamentary one went awry because of strong opposition from political parties which want the election time schedule reversed. The dismal story of the reimposition of a blanket ban on the temporarily relaxed political activity, large-scale arrests and

firings on violent demonstrations is too well known to need recounting.

Quite clearly Gen. Ershad has now opted for a short-cut to his goal which is something he could have done at any time during the last 20 months since he ousted the duly elected President, Mr. Abdus Sattar. He may yet want to seek election to acquire at least a fig-leaf cover of legitimacy. But obviously he has realised that he cannot do so without some accommodation with political parties, especially those who have organised themselves into a seven-party united front under the leadership of Begum Khalida Zia, the widow of the murdered President Ziaur Rahman. He has released not only her and her supporters but also Sheikh Hasina Wajed, daughter of the late Sheikh Mujib and the Awami League chief, who leads a 15-party alliance, and invited both for talks. But both the strong sentiment against military rule and the dispute over whether parliamentary or Presidential elections should be held first are serious obstacles to an understanding between him and them. Gen. Ershad's hopes of dividing and outsmarting Bangladesh's notoriously fractious political parties may not be particularly realistic, especially if the only stratagem he can think of is an offer of the post of vice-president to Begum Zia. Meanwhile, even he cannot be unaware of the cardinal lesson of Bangladesh's brief history that anyone combining in himself the offices of President, chief martial law administrator, commander-in-chief of the armed forces, chief of the army staff and chairman of the council of ministers is surely asking for trouble.

HERALD: 'Cause for Regret'

BK221545 Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English 14 Dec 83 p 7

[Editorial: "Bangladesh and Democracy"]

[Text] Events in Dhaka since the short-lived "relaxation" of martial law have sadly followed a course with which we in this subcontinent have become all too familiar. General Ershad, proclaiming himself President, has advanced the equally familiar argument that he did relax martial law and everyone saw the result. If the logic is correct, Bangladesh should bid good bye to civilian laws for ever. At the moment of writing, the ban on political activity has been rescinded and reimposed. The elections — for President in May and for the legislature in November — are still on. But General Ershad may yet change his mind as, indeed, he has hinted. Besides, what use would elections be if political activity remains banned and if the country cannot be run without martial law? One seems to remember that General Ershad had laid claim to an army role in running the country long before the present disturbances broke out. Given this claim, what General Ershad has done during the past few days is no surprise.

General Ershad can make any claim in Bangladesh today because his word is law, but democrats all over the world can cite other facts which he cannot contest. Bangladesh's major reason for seeking liberation was the long period of Pakistani military tyranny, which should be a sufficient reason for a passionate adherence to democracy. Further, both the upheavals since the liberation were caused by assassinations perpetrated by military men, not by civilians. If a military man now contends that the people cannot be trusted with liberties and power, the people can with greater justification argue that the country is unsafe in military hands. The argument will, of course, change the course of events in the present situation. But such are the dynamics of people's power that situations do change, sometimes drastically. In any case, democrats in Bangladesh and all over the world find much cause for regret in the fact that the country has not yet found firm anchor in a democratic polity for which it fought so desperately and at such heavy cost in 1971.

Soviet Charge Cited on Geneva Talks, Afghanistan

GF231138 Rawalpindi NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 7 Dec 83 p 1

[By special correspondent]

[Excerpts] Lahore, 6 Dec: The Soviet charge d'affaires in Pakistan, Mr Vladimir G. Beliaev, said that the most effective solution to the Afghanistan issue is that Kabul and Islamabad talk directly, because the present government in Afghanistan is its legal government. Besides, the formulating of a schedule for the departure of Soviet troops from Afghanistan is the concern of the two governments, which has no connection with the indirect Geneva talks.

The Soviet charge d'affaires who was being interviewed by the *NAWA-E WAQT* correspondent during a brief visit to Lahore said: Talk about the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan without international guarantees of nonintervention in Afghanistan's internal affairs is like putting the cart before the horse. During the course of the interview, the Soviet charge d'affires termed the economic, cultural, and political cooperation between Pakistan and the Soviet Union extremely welcomed and said: President Ziaul Haq's visit to Moscow last year and his meeting with Soviet President Andropov was the reason for improved relations.

In answer to a question on whether the Soviet Union is exerting pressure on Pakistan instead of presenting a schedule for the evacuation of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, Mr Beliaev said:

The Soviet Union has never exerted any kind of pressure on Pakistan on the issue of Afghanistan or any other issue. He expressed his regret that there had been no progress on the Afghanistan issue at the Geneva parleys and although the Soviet Union had been optimistic about the Geneva talks being productive, it appears things have become more complicated, especially in the latter part of the talks. He said: The intervention in the internal affairs of Afghanistan must stop so that the conditions in the region may improve. Certain international guarantees are also necessary so that the possibility of foreign interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs is eliminated.

When his attention was drawn to the fact that the Pakistani foreign minister had visited Washington and Moscow and had conferred with Security Council members and there was unanimity on the laying down of such guarantees, the Soviet diplomat said: But facts are to the contrary. The United States and some of its allies have attempted to gnarl the situation in Afghanistan and it is no secret that the United States is exerting pressure on Pakistan to abandon any attempts at a political settlement of the Afghan issue. During their recent visits, the U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger and U.S. Secretary of State Shultz issued statements which were not conducive to or effective vis-a-vis the Afghan issue. The Soviet leaders have never followed this policy of visiting other countries and maligning a third country.

In answer to another question, Mr Beliaev said: In the capacity of a diplomat, I should not be commenting on Geneva talks or the Afghan issue, but I must stress that Pakistan must adopt a realistic attitude. When asked to elucidate on what he meant by a "realistic attitude", Mr Beliaev said: The only effective way is direct talks between Kabul and Islamabad, because whether anyone likes it not, the present government in Kabul is the lawful government and how can anything be resolved without talks with the government itself.

He expressed satisfaction on the amelioration of Pakistani-Soviet economic relations and revealed that next week, a high-level delegation is leaving for Moscow and will discuss ways and means to increase mutual economic cooperation. He added: By next year, the steel mill set up in Pakistan with Soviet assistance will be operating at its maximum capacity. The Belarus tractor factory in Lahore is also operating satisfactorily and tractors will be supplied to consumers directly from here and this is a sign of the popularity of Russian tractors in Pakistan. The Soviet charge d'affaires called the exchange of cultural and political delegations commendable and announced that an exhibition of Soviet art from Kazakhistan would be held in Pakistan next month.

He said: [Soviet Ambassador to Pakistan] Smirnov will preside over a function in Lahore to present a book on Dr Iqbal, on which research has been done in the Soviet Union.

Commenting on a remark by visiting U.S. research scholar Dr (Zeiring) during a lecture at Lahore where he said that Pakistan must first put its house in order, the Soviet diplomat said: As was felt by some circles in Pakistan, this is tantamount to overt intervention in Pakistan's internal affairs. The Pakistani people are fully capable of handling their own affairs and this applies to the situation in Afghanistan as well. He was extremely perturbed regarding the situation in the Middle East and in response to a question said: The objective of U.S.-Israeli military collusion is to destroy the Palestinian organization's defense and to make Syria its target because Syria is an obstacle in the path of obtaining U.S. and Israeli objectives and, therefore, as the newspapers have reported, preparations are being made to launch an attack against it.

UAE President Arrives in Karachi 21 Dec

BK221038 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] The UAE president, Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, arrived in Karachi yesterday evening on a visit to Pakistan.

Khomeyni Speech on Prophet's Birthday

LD221837 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Excerpts] On the blessed occasion of the anniversary of the birth of His Holiness Mohammad ibn 'Abdallah, may God's peace and blessings be upon him and his kin, the revered prophet of Islam, and on the blessed anniversary of the birth of His Holiness Imam Ja'far Sadiq, may peace be upon him, President Khamene'i, Islamic Consultative Assembly Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Supreme Court President Musavi-Ardabili, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, and military and state officials were received this morning in Jamaran Mosque by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In this meeting, President Khamene'i congratulated the imam on the blessed anniversary of the birth of the noble prophet of Islam and of the sixth immaculate imam. Imam Khomeyni then made a speech about the character of the noble prophet:

[Begin Khomeyni recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I express my congratulations to all those present, to all the Muslims of the world, and to all the oppressed people throughout the world on the occasion of this great feast, the blessed feast of the anniversary of the birth of the noble prophet and his illustrious descendant, Imam Sadiq, may God's peace be upon him. I must say that none of the prophets, from Adam to the Seal of the Prophets [Muhammad] have achieved their true goals. Although all the perfections which exist in the world come from them, nevertheless, they did not achieve their ultimate goals. The other point which I should make is that the famous religions which are at the moment known to mankind — the religion of His Holiness Moses, the religion of his Holiness Christ, and Islam — if you look at the lives of the founders of those religions, if you look at the life of His Holiness Moses and at his mission and at the battles which he waged against Satan, and then if you look at the lives of his followers, those who say they are the followers of His Holiness Moses fighting against Satan, those who call themselves the followers of Moses are satans themselves, but they go on saying that they follow His Holiness Moses. Israel radio often quotes from the sayings of His Holiness Moses, but what about Israel itself, what is it like? Moses was a shepherd who possessed only a stick and history has recorded what kind of a shepherd he was, and despite all that he fought against the greatest power of his age and he attached no value to material things, yet we see that those who call themselves the followers of His Holiness Moses are completely attached to the world. America's great wealth is in their hands. America's material power is in their hands, yet they say that they believe in the religion of Moses.

The followers of His Holiness Christ are even worse. They say that His Holiness Christ was a spiritual person, and so he was. He was a spiritual and divine person who paid no attention to material things. According to the statements of those who followed him he had no concern for material things. He was an absolutely spiritual person. He was the spirit of God in the true sense of the word. Yet let us look at his followers. Who are his followers now? All the corruption which exists today, let us say half of all the corruption which exists in the world today, emanates from the followers of His Holiness Christ, may God's peace be upon him. I mean those who claim to be his followers. They are preparing themselves to celebrate the birthday of His Holiness Christ. What kind of people are they? They are those who are against Jesus and against the God of Jesus. They do not believe in Jesus yet they call themselves his followers.

The other half of the world is under the domination of those who claim that they are supporting the masses, that they are supporting the weak people, that they want to get rid of bullying, and that they want to make all people equal. Yet if you look at their leaders, you will see that the Kremlin is worse than America. Lenin and Stalin treated the people in the way that you know, and they continue to do the same. That is their claim and this is their practice.

Let us now look at ourselves, at the Muslims. Although all the leaders of the Islamic countries claim to be Muslims, although they claim that they are following the prophet of Islam, yet you see that there is absolutely no similarity between those leaders and Islam, there is absolutely no connection. They make lots of claims, but there is no practice. Look at the character of the prophet and look at your character. How did he live among the people and how are you living? How did the prophet behave toward the oppressed people and how do you behave toward them? What was the prophet's approach toward the satans and what is your approach toward the satans, apart from the fact that you are satans yourselves? What was the prophet's attitude toward the dispossessed of the world, and what is your attitude toward them? What was the prophet's life-style and what is your life-style and how much do you possess? It does no good if you just say that you are his followers. All the leaders of Islamic countries are like that. The prophet says be united with one another, yet you divide the people. The Koran says: Hold ye fast to the rope of God, yet you are holding the ropes of America or the Soviet Union. [shouts of God is great]

We in Iran are not claiming that we are true followers, our claim is that we want to be his followers, we are trying to follow his line.

Who are your masters and who are you following? Some of you are following this side and some of you are following that side and you are putting pressure on Iran which does not want to follow any side. If, God forbid, one day Iran slides to one side, will all the problems be solved and will everything be over?

Is it Iran's fault that Saddam attacks it like that and commits all those crimes? When he has been delivered a blow he looks for a way out. So long as he was attacking he used to say that he wanted to do this or that to these Magis [followers of Zoroaster]. On those days all Iranians were Magian, all Persian-speaking people were Magian. He was like that so long as he was in a position of strength. As soon as he was kicked out and was delivered a blow by the Iranian Muslims he started saying all of us are Muslims, why are we fighting one another?

Now that he has been defeated, in order to find a chance to attack us again he claims that he is peace-loving and repeats the word peace. International organizations do not come and ask him why, if he is so peace-loving, did he attack in the first place to sue for peace now?

An explosion takes place somewhere in the world. All the oppressed people of the world are against you [as heard]. There are explosions everywhere. However, when an explosion takes place somewhere, Saddam bombs Iran and they say this has been done in retaliation and that he has taken revenge. Even the supporters of human rights are also saying the same thing.

They are subjecting us to all these afflictions for the sake of America, yet they say they are Muslims. Is it Islam that you say you are Muslims and you do these things for America'ssake? They give their oil to America, they give everything which belongs to their nations, the nations are being trampled underfoot in complete poverty and misery, yet they claim that they are Muslims. One cannot be a Muslim merely by claiming to be a Muslim.

They say they are Muslims and are in favor of unity. Iran declares a unity week and they say Iran is trying to divide the people. Some of their radios say Iran is trying to divide the people, although Iran has declared a unity week. Iran says: Muslims of the world unite with one another and do not allow the big powers to engage in so much oppression.

The advice of the Iranian nation and the Iranian people to Islamic governments has always been: Let us come together, let us be united. We do not want to come and grab your countries. We are not expansionist. Yet we will defend our own rights. [shouts of God is great] From the beginning we have said this and we are still steadfast about our remarks.

We are saying that before the nations themselves arise, the governments should get together and become friendly with one another. All their presidents should sit together and should solve their problems. Everyone may remain in his place, but they should agree on general Islamic themes, on those issues which are common to all Muslims. They should gather together in one place and should stand up to them [as heard] and it is quite easy to do so. It is not something which is impossible. If we all get together they will leave the scene and will leave us alone. They are making use of your weakness, your stupidity and your ignorance, in the same way that they were making use of Mohammad Reza's weakness during the time of that wretch. It was enough for them to say one word and he would submit. They did not want to come and attack him, but they had frightened him in such a way that he thought if he said one word against America the world would be turned upside down. Iran did so and nothing happened.

I am not saying that we did not suffer any losses, but is it not worthwile for a man to protect his own human dignity and the dignity of Islam even at the cost of being martyred? The prophet and other propets also offered martyrs. This had been the attitude of the prophets and the great people to fight against satans even though they might be defeated or killed or offer martyrs. It is a precious thing to stand up to the oppressors, to clench one's fists and punch them in the mouth and not allow tyranny to increase. This is our duty. [end recording]

Report on Hashemi-Rafsanjani Speech to Guards

LD221608 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] Mohsen Reza'i, commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, commanders of the Hamzeh Seyyed Ash-Shohada, Najaf Ashraf and Karbala' Headquarters, commanders of the independent armored and infantry brigades and divisions, and responsible officials of the staff headquarters of the Corps' 11 regions met yesterday afternoon with Hashemi-Rafsanjani, representative of the imam on the Supreme Defense Council and speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly. During the meeting, Hashemi-Rafsanjani made a speech:

Meeting with our Corps brothers is always a cause for joy and exhilaration for me. The services rendered by the Corps are ever present on my mind. Of course, truthful, pure, selfless, and undemanding elements have gathered to make up the Corps, although in this context one cannot speak in absolute terms because impious elements can exist even in small numbers in any institution. But one can boldly say that the Corps consists of the least number of unpleasant elements and the Corps' power is directly at the service of Islam.

The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council added: I deeply believe that the Corps, this extremely pious and selfless force, should be strengthened and remain ready for service as an absolutely unavoidable necessity for an extensive period of the history of the revolution. Once this necessity is over, the Corps will find its place in history and will forever shine in the future of Islamic history.

The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly said: A look at the region in relation to the entire world brings us sadness and pain because 1 billion Muslims in more than 40 Islamic countries, despite having all that land, sources of riches, and sensitive military, economic, and political capabilities, are beset with rulers who have created such a sorry state of affairs for them that it is intolerable for their Islamic nations. Bearing this situation in mind, we believe that if a movement such as yours did not emerge in the world one could not entertain much hope in a confident future.

Continuing his speech Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: The United States and usurping Israel officially concluded a treaty aimed at crushing the Muslim people of Lebanon; they mutually boasted about it — and the United Nations, which is a soulless organization at the disposal of the arrogant powers, condemned it, but Arab leaders have not reacted and have chosen to remain silent. The traitorous, venal Arab world sharply disagreed with Iran on the price of oil and by this very move demonstrates its subjection to blackmail by the United States.

Today these people are welcoming Rumsfeld, U.S. envoy to the Arab countries, and Saddam and Rumsfeld have officially met and have announced the result of this meeting with utmost insolence.

The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly said: One would have expected protest or even demonstrations by the Arab people against these evil acts. But there is no sign of this because they seem to be beset with deadly shame that the Arab people are burdened with these traitorous leaders. Of course, if the Arab people were to move as the Iranian people have done,they would be able to make progress.

Bearing these problems in mind, we realize that the Islamic Republic is the sole source of hope to the Muslim people of the world. It then follows that whoever keeps bright this source of hope and this shining beacon will receive his reward from God.

Referring to the fact that the enemies of the Islamic Republic have placed our movements under a microscope, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that the soaring popular movements are a very sensitive issue for our enemies. An explosion in Lebanon has caused them extreme terror, so much so that they have adopted stringent security measures and a frightful nightmare has engulfed them. Like those whose entire hope lies in voluptuousness and worldly possessions, the thought of being deprived of these material things shakes them to their very foundations so that they are forever beset with nightmarish thoughts. One of God's punishments is that these nightmarish thoughts should create an atmosphere of terror for these people. By their own hands they deprive themselves of peaceful rest. They disseminate the propaganda that the Iranians, for instance, want to place an explosion in such and such a place or are about to train suicidal pilots to dive-bomb their palaces. Reagan, with all his pomp and glory, says: I have accurate information that Iran has trained 1,000 people to carry out suicide missions.

But we do not need such suicide missions because those individuals who are prepard to be trained to carry out such suicide missions are much dearer to us than that, and the United States knows that we have very large numbers of guided pilotless aircraft which we could use. Of course, our enemies pursue certain aims by such propaganda. They want to prepare the ground for their aggressive presence.

Addressing the commanders of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, he continued: We cannot think of any other path for the Islamic Republic except that we should achieve decisive victory in this war. Of course, we have not closed the path toward peace. On the very first day we announced certain conditions and we said that the aggressor should leave, should be tried, and should also pay reparations. None of those people who came to mediate has so far told us: You do not speak justly. Rather, they have said: Please forgive. This is not possible when a big country such as Iran and a country such as Iraq have confronted each other and money has been extorted from both countries for the purchase of weapons and thousands of other problems have been created for both countries. Therefore, it is impossible for us to come to terms with Saddam. Even in the event of the impossible situation whereby Saddam emerges unscathed from this war he would be confronted with the protests of his countrymen. Under these circumstances, he would have no other recourse but to use bayonets because the Iraqi people consider him answerable for the deaths of all these people.

Therefore, we do not want lasting peace [as heard] and an armed peace is also extremely dangerous to us. Consequently, one of the two sides must vacate the field. We, who have not committed aggression and have not been guilty, have been subjected to oppression and so far we have constantly defended ourselves. If we have entered Iraqi territory to a certain extent,this has been part and parcel of our rights, that is, defense. There is no way that we would renounce retrieving our right. The only way is that we should obtain absolute victory — and this should happen as soon as possible. Of course, even if this war lasts another 20 years we will have the power to meet it, but our nation would necessarily face difficulties. We have many goals which we would not be able to implement if the war were to continue. Moreover, there are other secondary complications which are also caused by the war. Among other things the reactionary regimes, by taking advantage of the problems of the war, have reduced the price of oil from $34 to $29, and so far they have continually reduced it. Also, the Soviet onslaught into Afghanistan and that aggressor's stay in Afghanistan are effects of the war. These things are aspects of the advantages taken by our enemies from the war situation. Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: Despite the fact that we can bear this war for a long time, we must end it speedily and victoriously.

Addressing the Corps commanders, he said that a rapid, crushing movement such as Fath ol-Mobin could be extremely damaging to Saddam. From Al-Faw to Hajj to 'Umran, whatever operation you carry out, you will be breaking Saddam's back.

In connection with the immense force constituted by the Labbayk Ya Khomeyni plan, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Because of the existence of the combatant battalions of the Labbayk Ya Khomeyni plan, the enemy has given up his desire for any move north or south of this divine realm.

In conclusion, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly added: Our victory is in your hands and our hope lies in you alone and our army brothers, so that together and hand in hand, as a single battalion, you may enter the battlefield and end the war as soon as possible.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique 1,581

LD221739 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Communique No 1,561 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The proud warriors of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran shot down an intruding MIG-23 of the Iraqi aggressive Armed Forces in the country's southern sector at 1131 today.

Sporadic exchange of artillery and other heavy weapons fire between our powerful combatants and the Iraqi Ba'thist and aggressive mercenaries continued yesterday on the Piranshahr, Sar Dasht, and Marivan fronts. The combatants of Islam on each front, by pounding sensitive positions, supply points, and the

engineering forces of the enemy — who were busy consolidating their defensive positions and planting mines — halted movements and activities of the Saddamist infidel forces and inflicted losses and casualties on the Iraqi forces. The combatants of Islam, by dispatching patrol groups, monitored and controlled enemy movements and activities.

A unit of the Iraqi forces, backed by artillery fire, tried to advance and penetrate the defensive positions of our forces on the border front of Marivan. Thanks to the intense artillery fire of our forces, enemy fire was silenced and the enemy patrol unit was forced to retreat and flee after suffering heavy losses and casualties.

Exchanges of fire also continued on the Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts and the southern sector of the country; it was occasionally more intense in the Kushk region. The combatants of Islam along these fronts, while continuing the task of consolidating their own defensive positions, controlled or halted enemy movements and activities by opening timely fire and by dispatching patrol groups at appropriate times.

According to the reports received, the enemy losses on the western fronts were around 15 enemy troops killed or wounded and one 106-mm gun destroyed.

On one of the southern fronts, elements of the Iraqi forces tried to penetrate the defensive positions of our forces; the combatants of Islam recognized them and, by opening fire, inflicted losses and casualties on the enemy patrol elements, forcing them to flee.

As a result of the return fire of the Gendarmerie warriors in the Abadan and Khorramshahr sector on enemy positions and units, enemy fire was silenced, 2 slit trenches of the Saddamist mercenaries were destroyed, and at least 10 of their troops were killed.

The city of Abadan yesterday came under the fire of the Iraqi aggressive Ba'thist mercenaries; city installations and houses were damaged.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

PRAVDA Article on Gulf War Assessed

LD221523 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2330 GMT 21 Dec 83

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] For the first time in the course of the 3-year-old war imposed by Iraq upon the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 14 November, Moscow bosses removed their veil of hypocrisy and openly announced their official position in favor of the Zionist regime ruling over Iraq. This, naturally, was nothing new for the supporters of the Islamic Revolution of Iran. However, the reactionary mass media of the Arab world referred to it as a new development with regard to the war imposed by Iraq upon the Islamic Republic of Iran and made various comments concerning it in their various publications.

In a commentary on the war imposed by Iraq upon the Islamic Republic of Iran, *PRAVDA*, official organ of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, revealed the official position of the Kremlin palace vis-a-vis the war. We will first translate some passages from the *PRAVDA* article — maintaining absolute honesty in our translation — then we will analyze the article and, finally, we will reach some conclusions concerning that article.

PRAVDA explains the motivations behind the extensive and total war imposed by Iraq upon the Islamic Republic of Iran, the reasons for its continuation and the achievement of peace or cease-fire as follows: The exalted aspirations and the true spirit of the Islamic Revolution of Iran have been lost due to the fanaticism and insistence of the Islamic Republic of Iran on achieving victory in the war with Iraq. The senseless bloodshed resulting from the war has assumed new dimensions and this has increased the human losses suffered by the two warring sides.

In another part of the article, referring to the motivation for starting the war, *PRAVDA* continues: The Iran-Iraq war started 3 years ago for the sake of 372 square km of territory.

PRAVDA then repeated the old refrain of the Kremlin palace bosses, namely, that America is the true winner of the war between Iran and Iraq and declared the Islamic Republic of Iran responsible for continuing the war and for rejecting a cease-fire.

Of course, we regard *PRAVDA*'s position which reflects the inner feelings of the dwellers of the Kremlin palace as being due to the hostile and hateful policies of the Soviet Union. In its Arabic programs, Radio Moscow refers to the Persian Gulf as the Arabian Gulf, while in its Persian programs it refers to it as the Persian Gulf. On the 3d anniversary of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, Radio Moscow referred to it as an anti-imperialist revolution and expressed the Soviet Government's willingness for any form of cooperation with the Islamic regime in Iran.

Verbally, the Soviet policy announces itself as the supporter of Palestinian aspirations and a friend of the Arabs. However, in the course of the aggression and invasion by the Zionist regime against Lebanon, and the withdrawal of Palestinian fighters from Beirut, according to the admission of 'Arafat himself, the Soviet Union did not deliver even one rifle to the Palestinians.

PRAVDA writes that the continuation of the war is in America's interest and the bloodshed resulting from the war is senseless. Does not the fact that the Zionist Saddam has completely fallen into the filthy lap of America and France completely belie *PRAVDA*'s analysis? Does not the unholy alliance between Shah Husayn, Numayri, and other reactionary rulers and faithful servants of America and Saddam in his war against the Islamic Republic of Iran reveal the falsity of *PRAVDA*'s commentary?

PRAVDA's editors should have at least briefly referred in an obscure corner of their newspaper to the missile attacks against Iranian towns, so that they would have at least tried to hide their unanimity of views with the new reports of the great satan. Certainly the position adopted by politicians of the Kremlin palace reveals their despair and hopelessness concerning the Islamic Revolution of Iran. Also they are very displeased with the fact that the traitorous leaders of the Tudeh Party have been

brought to justice by the Islamic Republic of Iran and the fact that 18 Soviet diplomats were expelled from Iran as personae non grata.

From time to time, while commenting about Babrak Karmal, *PRAVDA* accuses Iran of conspiracy against the unpopular and mercenary regime of Kabul. Up to the last day of life of the regime of the traitorous shah, *PRAVDA* always wrote that in their demonstrations the Iranians shouted, "Yankee go home." However, it never liked and never referred to other slogans of our people such as "Our movement follows the path of Husayn, and Khomeyni is our leader," or "Independence, freedom, Islamic Republic."

Issues such as the invitation of the Kremlin palace leaders to Na'im Haddad, speaker of the parliament of the regime ruling over Baghdad, and his visit to Moscow; the meeting between Andrey Gromyko and the Iraqi ambassador in India, and the repeated meetings between officials of the two countries; and Tariq 'Aziz' recent visit to Moscow— all those clearly demonstrate the recent position adopted by the Kremlin palace dwellers.

PRAVDA claims that continuation of the war would prepare the way for greater American influence, but it seems that in its view the occupation of Afghanistan has no effect upon the expansion of the influence of American imperialism.

We should once again clearly state the legitimate position of the Islamic Republic of Iran vis-a-vis the war. The Iranian nation is neither fanatical nor is it anxious to continue bloodshed. Our country, which recently released itself from the yoke of America, was suddenly and without any reason subjected to aggression from the land, sea, and air by the Zionist Saddam. Now 3 years after the war, the just demands of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which were announced to the world at the beginning of the war, are still in force. Under no circumstances will we sit round a conference table with the criminal and bloodthirsty Saddam regime.

The fact that *PRAVDA* has joined the circle of Zionist, imperialist and reactionary mass media in its analysis of the imposed war is further proof of the weakness and hopelessness of the Zionist regime ruling over Baghdad. God willing, in the near future we will witness the downfall of the bloodthirsty Iraqi regime.

When evil falls, its shame will remain with its supporters.

Paper Examines Soviet 'Policy Change'

GF230552 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 29 Nov 83 p 11

["Answers to Your Political Questions" column]

[Text] [Question] Why has the propaganda machinery of the Soviet Union been depicting Iran as "towing the line of imperialist America for the past few months?" Why does Moscow radio insist that Iran has fallen into the lap of the West? Does'nt the Soviet anti-Iran propaganda have a negative effect on the relations of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the Eastern bloc?

[Answer] There are two basic factors in the Soviet anti-Islamic Republic of Iran propaganda which have proved to be effective:

A. The change in the leadership of the Soviet Union and the appointment of the KGB chief as president and secretary general of the Soviet Communist Party.

B. The dissolution of the Tudeh Party in Iran and the arrest of its leaders and members followed by the expulsion of 18 spies from the Soviet Embassy in Tehran.

Regarding the first factor, *JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI* last year, in this very column, explained the essence of the new Soviet regime after the death of Brezhnev and the change in the Soviet leadership. It has now been proved that our analysis of that day regarding the future setup of the Soviet political scene was quite accurate. That day we said that election of a man like Yuriy Andropov as secretary general of the Soviet Communist Party, a person who in 1956 as Soviet ambassador to Hungary had played a vital role in crushing the bloody revolution of that country, a person who later on, from the Khrushchev era up to the spring of last year, for about 15 years, had held the post of the KGB chief and as shown in the *PRAVDA* of 10 May 1983, after the death of Brezhnev, assumed the post of chief of staff of the Soviet Army [as published], in addition to the post of the secretary general of the Soviet Communist Party, indicated that the Soviet Union was determined that after the death of Brezhnev, it would replace its defensive and passive policy with that of an aggressive policy in the international field and, like the American Republicans, would not mind the revelation of its aggressive intentions in the world political arena.

Yuriy Andropov's speech on the very first day of his taking over the post of the secretary general supports this analysis and reflects his aggressive policy.

In a meeting of the members of the central cadre of the Soviet Communist Party on 12 November 1982, he said: "We know full well we cannot beg for peace from imperialists. It is only by reliance on the invincible strength of the Soviet Armed Forces that we can achieve peace." Soaring antinuclear stands in the world coupled with the growing political crisis in Europe during the past year due to the arms rivalries of the various poles of the world oppressors, all indicate the growing aggressive policies of the United States of America and the Soviet Union against the nations of the world, policies which before the death of Brezhnev and change in the Soviet leadership, had not reached this stage.

In view of these circumstances, the change in the leadership was the first factor in changing the foreign policy of this country vis-a-vis the other countries of the world, including the Islamic Republic of Iran. This policy change has appeared in the form of spreading lies, accusations, and slander by Moscow radio and Soviet newspapers, stating that Iran's Islamic Revolution was not independent.

The other factor which had changed the Soviet policy toward the Islamic Republic of Iran and is a justification for this change was the dissolution of the Tudeh Party of Iran and arrest of its leading elements and its traitor members and then the expulsion of the spies in guise of diplomats, from the Soviet Embassy in Tehran.

There is no doubt that the Tudeh Party of Iran was well known in the world. From 1951 to 1953, the Western powers in order to find a pretext to interfere in Iran carried out widespread propaganda about the danger and might of the Tudeh Party and that if a decisive action was not taken against this party, the Soviets might swallow Iran with the help of this party. Later, after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, the presence of the Tudeh Party in Iran and its outward stance that it was supporting the Islamic Revolution coupled with Western propaganda that Iran was leaning toward the Eastern bloc, fanned the baseless propaganda that the Tudeh Party had plans to draw Iran toward the Soviet Union.

On the other hand, in the eyes of the United States of America and its Western allies, it was felt that out of all the political groups which were active in Iran, the Tudeh Party, more than others, was in quest of safeguarding the interests of the Soviet Union and its spies in Iran. This was no doubt a fact and the Soviets were aware of this. It was, therefore, only natural that the Soviets after the arrest of its mercenaries in Iran, would accuse Iran of leaning toward the West.

Baku Radio, 10 days after the expulsion of the spies from the Soviet Embassy in Iran, on 15 May said: "Iran, with closer relations with Pakistan and Turkey, was trying to revive the CENTO pact." The National radio on 29 May said: "In Iran they say death to America but in secret they have opened the door to reconciliation with American elements, the British, and their allies."

The Soviet Union, on the other hand, with this false and venomous propaganda, intends to continue the flow of arms aid to the dying regime of Iraq and justify this aid under cover of the atmosphere which it has created.

NVOI Warns of Suppression of Feda'iyan-e Khalq

TA190948 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Unattributed commentary: "Danger to Which Attention Must be Devoted"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: Following suppression of the Iranian Tudeh Party, rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran are preparing the ground for a brutal assault on the Feda'iyan-e Khalq Organization of Iran — Majority. For instance, they are inducing Shahrokh Jahangiri, Partovi [Tudeh members on trial], and others to make some remarks about this true revolutionary organization so that by involving the above-mentioned organization in some issues they may be able to create a background for implementing their criminal and treacherous plans against it. For this reason, all revolutionary forces and the people must be alert in the face of this plot by despotic rulers of the Islamic regime of Iran.

From the outset, to consolidate the foundations of their unlawful rule, rulers of the so-called Islamic regime chose the most condemned and censured policy — a policy by which so far feeble British colonialism and world-devouring U.S. imperialism have been able to deliver the hardest blows to the Iranian nation's national and anti-imperialist movements in various periods of history — namely, the policy of divide and rule.

Let us recall that immediately following the victory of the Iranian nation's glorious revolution, penetrating agents of world-devouring U.S. imperialism and British colonialism in the Islamic Government of Iran strived with utmost dexterity to sow discord among the true forces of the revolution and among popular revolutionary parties and organizations, headed by the Iranian Tudeh Party, the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization of Iran, and the Feda'iyan-e Khalq Organization of Iran. It should be said that in many instances their efforts to promote this treacherous policy was successful.

Tyrannical rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran — these supporters of the system of exploitation, who vainly believe that the Iranian Tudeh Party has already been eliminated — are engaged in preparing an extensive brutal onslaught against other revolutionary forces, particularly members of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq Organization of Iran — Majority. As they have repeatedly shown in practice, these superstitious rulers and foes of thought and intellect will treat the Feda'iyan-e Khalq the same way that they have treated and are treating the Mojahedin and the Tudeh.

The Iranian people or the true forces of the revolution, especially the Tudeh, the Feda'iyan, and the Mojahedin, know that the foes of the Iranian Revolution in the Islamic leadership are tricky, tyrannical, and deceitful enemies. The new plots of these foes of Iran's freedom and independence must be foiled, and the true forces of the revolution should be protected from the brutal attack by rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran, by getting organized within a united popular and anti-imperialist front. The salvation of our homeland's revolution depends only on the ironclad unity of all true revolutionary forces, as well as of all sincere and relentless enemies of tyranny, imperialism, and supporters of the corrupt system of capitalism.

NVOI Calls Anti-imperialist Struggle 'Lie'

TA191136 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Unattributed commentary: "America Is Not Opposed to Islam of These Gentlemen"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: Struggle against arrogance, as well as struggle on the path of Islam, are among the demagogical claims of the rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which are employed as a means for duping people.

For example, in a meeting at the tribal headquarters, President of Iran Khamene'i said: Our enemies are prepared to come to terms with everything, except with Islam. Mr Khamene'i described Islam as a motivating factor for mobilizing and consolidating the spirit of resistance of nations.

On the one hand, the authorities claim to struggle against America and, on the other, they want to pretend that America is not hostile toward the Iranian nation but rather toward Islam, particularly the Islam of these gentlemen. However, as we are aware, America is not opposed to Islam, especially to the Islam

being presented by the authorities of the existing government. Not only is America not opposed, but it is inwardly pleased that rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran are striving with utmost power to portray the struggle of our homeland's people for independence, freedom, and the severance of imperialist domination as struggle on the path of an Islam mutilated by the government's leaders.

In the previous regime, America suppressed the Iranian nation's freedom by means of its lackey — the accursed shah. In the present regime, the clergy have strengthened the same hellish apparatus of the former regime and have trampled on any manifestation of freedom and free thought. The main aim of the imperialists was to prevent the growth and development of freedom-seeking and revolutionary ideas in Iran. The clerical supporters of exploiters in the leadership are fulfilling this goal of the imperialists.

If the claim by rulers of the Islamic Republic with regard to struggle against U.S. imperialism is at all true, then what does this adherence and obedience by the Islamic Government to the American world-devourers in the field of foreign policy mean? Is the Pakistani Government not a puppet of the United States? Is America not trying to turn Pakistan into the region's gendarme by crushing the freedom-seeking movements of this country's people? This is a fact apparent to all people of the world. Therefore, what pretext and motive can be behind the Islamic Government's friendship with such a regime except this government's adherence to America's subjugating policies?

The regime's leaders are frankly confirming that Iran is assisting the Afghan counterrevolutionaries. In Afghanistan, as a result of the April Revolution, a regime has been set up which is a thorn in the side of America.

Why is the Islamic Government hostile to such a regime? When has Afghanistan offended this government? Why do the Islamic Government spokesmen talk with so much impudence about their assistance to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries? It is to prove their allegiance to America, to extinguish the flame of freedom in Afghanistan, and to prevent this country, as a model of backward countries that have regained their true freedom and independence, from traveling the path of its material and moral development without confronting problems arising from interference by superstitious governments such as the Islamic Government.

Leaders of the Islamic Government have accomplished nothing for the people. They have only chanted slogans. They have only made promises. Then they violated their own slogans and promises, wreaked havoc on our homeland's people, severed their liberties, and failed to give the people anything but death, prison, inquisition, hoarding, profiteering, and the yoke. Should Afghanistan manage to develop as an independent and free country — which it will — the Islamic Government will be even more disgraced and disreputable than it is now. It was for this reason that rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran pursued America's independence-destroying policy with regard to Afghanistan as well. Therefore, the claim of struggle against imperialism by the Islamic Government, like its defense of Islam, is a downright lie aimed at deceiving public opinion.

Free Voice of Iran on Tudeh Trial, Kianuri Fate

GF171830 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 17 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Radio Mo[illegible]ow is continuing its defense of the arrested Tudeh Party leaders (?simultaneously) with the mullahs' trial of the Tudeh Party leaders in camera. This radio castigates the mullahs' regime for the trial of the Tudeh Party leaders and announces that this (?rigged up) trial is being carried out in (?secret).

Meanwhile, according to a report from Tehran, it is possible that the Tudeh Party leaders may be pardoned by the Islamic Republic, especially since Nureddin Kianuri is a relative of Khomeyni and the grandson of Sheykh Fazlollah Nuri, leader and mentor of Ayatollah Khomeyni. Hajj Sheykh Fazlollah Nuri was hanged for opposing the freedom and progress of the people of Iran in (Tupkhaneh) Square in Tehran after the victory of the monarchists in Iran.

TEHRAN TIMES Labels France 'Grand Terrorist'

GF221152 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 27 Nov 83 p 2

[Editorial by D. Mohammadi: "Grand Terrorist"]

[Text] In 1979, millions of Iranians sprayed the French Embassy in Tehran with lillies, a favourite flower of the ex-President Valery Giscard d'Estaing and the same with which he hosted Imam Khomeyni, leader of Islamic Revolution of Iran when he arrived in Paris at that time. Well now the picture has changed, and there are no more lillies for those who oppose the Islamic Republic's Revolutionary cause. They suit only our 13 martyrs from Lebanon.

Looking over the past, relations between the Islamic Republic and France continued to be cordial long after the Islamic Revolution had become well-rooted in Iran. Not even flights of the occasional refugees from the revolution and his or her acceptance by the French Governmment soured these relations.

But at the time of provisional government in Iran and an attempt by the misguided liberals to run against the grain of an Islamic Revolution, which had emanated from the desire of a Iranian Muslim people to see Islam reestablished, the French Government's policy began to see a subtle change.

The big powers of the world including France with whom we are dealing here, began to fear the emergence of a religious force in the world with every advance of the Islamic Revolution in Iran and its deeper entrenchment in the hearts and souls of the people. So kindness turned to bitter jealously, envy and fear which continue to this day.

France, apart from passively accepting these misguided liberals who escaped the wrath of the Muslim people of Iran, actually encouraged them, giving them every facility to flail vainly at the Islamic Revolution from their safe hideouts in France. Even the infamous ex-President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr who made his himiliating escape to that country was given the honours of a hero.

With the outbreak of the imposed war upon Iran, the French Government's attitude became even clearer. The animosity of the French Government towards the Islamic Republic of Iran, increased with the delivery of more and more arms and French Mirage jets which are used by Saddam to inflict his wrath on the innocent Iranian civilian population.

But now the deceptive mask that France has worn for long is completely torn and we can clearly see the devil behind the human masquerade. The delivery of the French Super Etendards to Iraq despite all the warnings of the Islamic Republic Government, and, the danger it posed of escalating hostilities even more widely in the region was the most flagrant piece of blunder the French Government could have fallen prey to.

To add insult to injury France continues to harass and hurt the Islamic Republic in more violent ways as each day passes and, follows in the foot-steps of the arch terrorists of the world the Zionists, rather tries to outdo them.

First, France was strongly believed to be implicated in a plot to blow up the Islamic embassy's buildings in Beirut, Lebanon. And only a few days ago the French went to the extent of raining bombs in collusion with the Zionists on Ba'alabaak, Lebanon, where Islamic revolutionary fighters in the Lebanese cause were encamped. A large number of Lebanese civilians were killed in these raids although only 13 of the Islamic revolutionary guard's were martyred.

The raid was a presumed plot to avenge explosions of the French forces headquarters in Beirut which France assumed, without a shred of evidence, as instigated by the Iranian Government. No explanations have been forthcoming from France.

Apparently it is all this groundless evidence put together that made Imam Khomeyni lash out at the French Government in one of his speeches recently calling France the "grand terrorist" to which all men of conscience would heartily agree.

TEHRAN TIMES on Saudi Administration of Shrines

GF221152 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 29 Nov 83 p 1

[Commentary by the Haramayn [holy shrines] crescent administration]

[Text] The hajj has come and gone. More than 2 million Muslims performed it. The annual eyeball-to -eyeball confrontation between the Islamic state of Iran and the Saudi monarchy over the number of pilgrims from Iran and the facilities for them is an ugly spectacle.

This year's confrontation was heading toward a showdown when Imam Khomeyni's direct and firm intervention sent shivers down the spine of the Saudi king. Within hours, he was on television announcing that Iran could bring all its 100,000 pilgrims and that they could stay in their traditional rooming houses. Crisis was averted.

This year, instead of attempting to control the Iranian pilgrims, the Saudis separated the rest of the pilgrims from them.

Reports reaching us suggest that, in addition to the two divisions of the Pakistan Army now permanently deployed on security duty in Saudi Arabia, additional troops were specially brought in from Egypt. Some unconfirmed reports also suggest that non-Muslim white American mercenaries were seen directing security operations in Mecca and Medina.

Throughout the hajj season, the Saudis directed propaganda at the pilgrims, insisting that the hajj had no political significance, that the hajj was merely a ritual, and that it was the "right" of every Muslim to perform hajj "unmolested" by political issues. Huge photographs of King Fahd welcomed the pilgrims. Surely arguing against politics in hajj is itself a political act? If portraits of Imam Khomeyni are an intrusion in the hajj ritual, so must be the portrait of Fahd, the local U.S. client, ally, and agent.

All pilgrims, irrespective of their position in the Iranian/Saudi arguments, have come back with harrowing tales of police harassment, extortion by traders, breakdown of administration, and almost total absence of sanitation. Men and women often found it difficult or even impossible to maintain elementary standards of modesty and privacy when attending to the calls of nature and other physical needs. For the vast majority, the hajj is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. It needs to be sublime and beautiful. At present it has been turned into a quagmire of conflict, corruption, harassment, conspiracy, security, and indecency.

One does not need to appoint a judicial committee of the nation to find the Saudi regime guilty of gross mismanagement of the hajj. That, however, is only one of its many failings. Since its creation in 1929, the Saudi state has always systematically destroyed the Islamic character of the Hejaz. Today the Haramayn [holy shrines] in Mecca and Medina stand surrounded by the grossest forms of filth and indecency produced by Western type of urban development. In itself the Saudi state is no longer, if indeed it ever was, a political system that could be identified with Islam and the nation. The Saudi state today is the most corrupt and debased political system ever to exist in the heartland of Islam. It also suffers from total political impotence at home and abroad. For its survival it depends largely upon the enemies of Islam. Its rulers suffer from a degree of dishonesty, moral turpitude, perfidy, graft, venality, nepotism, and infidelity that makes them quite unfit to exercise any authority, let alone "sovereignty," over the Hejaz and the Haramayn.

The future control and administration of the Hejaz is now a crucial issue facing the nation.

This year Israel has reached its new frontier to the north necessary for the accomplishment of the "Greater Israel" of the Zionist mythology. To the south the Zionist maps show Medina in Israel. Clearly there is a grave threat to the Haramayn. The Hejaz and the Haramayn cannot be defended by any one state.

A new political authority to defend and administer the Haramayn and the Hejaz is the most pressing need of the nation.

Officials Meet on Bringing Skilled Iranians Home

GF191636 Tehran IRNA in English 1610 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 19, IRNA — Officials and members of the office of attraction of committed Iranian experts met and conferred with Prime Minister Mir- Hoseyn Musavi Sunday. As a result of this meeting the office announced that officials would be despatched to European countries for holding talks with graduating Iranian students and also coordinating such activities with Islamic Republic representatives abroad.

Premier Musavi addressing the group said that among the office's practical achievements was the countering of the anti-revolutionaries propaganda of portraying a chaotic scene in Iran, in efforts to make the Iranian experts flee the country.

It should be noted that the office for attraction of committed Iranian experts is affiliated to the Prime Ministry, authorised to provide the necessary facilities for those skilled and committed Iranians returning to their homeland.

Till now a large number of Iranian experts from abroad have contacted the office desiring to return to their homeland.

Khoy Friday Imam Cables Support to Khomeyni

GF210620 Tabriz Domestic Service in Azeri 1530 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] ollowing the advice of the imam of nation, which urged the people to support the present Cabinet, the Friday imam of Khoy, Hojjat ol-Eslam Nazmi, sent a telegram to the imam of the nation. In this telegram, support for the present hard-working revolutionary Cabinet, the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, and the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran was expressed. Also, the scheming plots of the enemies aimed at weakening the fighters of Islam were condemned.

In another part of this telegram, all Friday imams, clergymen, and the martyr-producing people of our Islamic society were urged to stand up and resist these plots, according to the admonition of the imam, until final victory is achieved.

Radio Iran: Guard Commander Killed in Kordestan

GF161719 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] One of the agents of repression and ('suppression) of the people of Kashan, named Mohammad Soltani, a member of the guards corps and member of Khomeyni's intelligence and information organization, was killed by Kurdish combatants.

Mohammad Soltani, who was the commander of a group of armed religionists, had carried out genocidal operations in the districts and villages of Kordestan and had killed a group of innocent people.

Mopping-up Operations Conducted in Villages

LD221753 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] During the Vahdat [unity] operation, codenamed Ya Rasulallah [God's messenger], which lasted 13-19 December on the Saqqez-Baneh and Saqqez-Doab axes, the zealous combatants of Islam conducted mopping up operations in the villages of Sisaleh, Kamaveleh, Kapanchu, Mamishleh, Kiyamnavar, Miyam Darreh, Varmaeh, Kureh Kureh, Shuram, Havar, and the Upper Bu'in. Five counterrevolutionaries were captured and 30 others were killed or wounded. Two high-ranking officials of the counterrevolutionaries could be seen; one of them, Anvar Veysi, was taken prisoner and the other was killed.

Tehran Bread Shortage, Demonstrations Reported

GF210514 London ASGHAR AQA-RESANEH in Persian 10 Dec 83 p 4

[Text] Last week the people of Tehran were again faced with bread shortages and attempted to hold demonstrations. The demonstrations were immediately and harshly put down by the guards. The Islamic regime then announced that it required a number of trucks to transport the imported wheat from the ports. Hours later the Islamic radio announced that a large number of trucks had left Tehran for Bandar 'Abbas for the purpose of clearing the wheat and transporting it to Tehran!

Tribal Leader in Firuzabad Reportedly Executed

GF211754 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] According to a report by the Free Voice of Iran correspondent in Shiraz, one of the leaders of the (Kashkuli) tribe in Firuzabad, Ja'afar (Kashkuli), has been executed. Before his execution he had received a letter of amnesty from the Khomeyni regime. However, his house arrest was carried out despite his letter of amnesty. Ja'afar (Kashkuli) was executed in Shiraz prison after 'Ali Khamene'i visited Fars Province.

Contrary to Khamene'i's claims on his return that he was warmly welcomed everywhere he went in Fars Province, our correspondent added in his report that the patriotic people of Fars remained indifferent to his visit. The execution of Ja'afar (Kashkuli) added to their indifference and angered the proud tribes of (Vassali) and (Kashkuli). For this reason Khamene'i's guards tightened security measures to prevent any attack on him by the people.